Viability of Textile Industry

4949. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for improving economic viability of textile industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to make the textile sector competitive in view of cheap imported goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) : (a) to (c) Government have taken several steps to improve economic viability and competitiveness of the textile industry, mainly by addressing constraints and issues relating to policy, fiscal structure, infrastructure and technology. Some of the important steps are indicated as follows :—

(i) Announcement of National Textile Policy for developing a strong and vibrant textile industry;

(ii) Launch of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for modernisation of textile industry;

(iii) Launch of Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme for upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres;

(iv) Launching of a programme as part of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for modernisation of viewing capacities;

(v) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route in the textile sector with certain exceptions;

(vi) Announcement in two consecutive Budgets aiming *inter-alia* at further rationalisation of duty structure in the textile sector and reducing costs of machinery critical to technology upgradation;

(vii) Launch of Technology Mission on the Cotton to achieve increasing cotton productivity and upgrade its quality upto international standards;

(viii) De-reservation of woven readymade garment sector from SSI;

(ix) Setting up of Apparel Parks and providing facilities therein concerning labour, infrastructure and duty structure for encouraging growth and competitiveness in global market.

Wherever necessary, measures are also taken in accordance with WTO regulations to discourage import of goods if the same is seen to be against the interest of industry.

Deen Dayal Hatkargha Protsahan Yojana

4950. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof *inter-alia* stating the aims thereof, funding pattern, incentives and facilities provided under the scheme;

(c) monitoring mechanism to check the utilization of assistance provided under the scheme at the National and State level;

(d) whether the Government have assessed the impact of the scheme so as to decide whether the scheme is to be continued/discontinued keeping in view the huge allocation to funds to the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY) aims to provide necessary support to upgrade skills and knowledge of weavers along with basic inputs for product development and its diversification, strengthen the handloom organizations to enable them to provide input to the weavers, ensure availability of infrastructure and common facility to develop better products, make weavers aware of the demands of the markets and to provide assistance for publicity for marketing of handloom goods, improve the mobility of finished handloom products from the States of J&K. North Eastern States and Sikkim and also to provide suitable marketing incentives to attracts buyers towards handloom goods. Funds are provided for margin money, purchase of new looms, jacquards, dobbies, accessories, infrastructure support (*e.g.* setting up of common facility centres, water and effluent treatment plant and process houses), publicity, design